

REMARKS

Claims 3, 4 and 7-10 are pending in the application. The Examiner has rejected Claims 3, 4 and 7-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gourdol (U.S. Patent 5,594,810) in view of Ishigaki (U.S. Patent 5,361,310).

Regarding the rejections of independent Claims 3, 7 and 9 under §103(a), the Examiner states that Gourdol in view of Ishigaki renders unpatentable all of the elements of the claims. Gourdol teaches a method and apparatus for recognizing gestures on a computer system; Ishigaki teaches a handwriting entry processing system using keyboard and mouse interfaces requiring no modification of an application program. Neither Gourdol nor Ishigaki teaches or discloses that the character recognition is restarted in response to the start of a second stroke. Claims 3, 7 and 9 have been amended to include this element. Based on at least the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Additionally, referring to col. 14 line 62 to col. 15 line 23 of Gourdol, a CPU determines if a stroke is part of a multiple stroke gesture by checking if an additional stroke is entered within a predetermined distance of a previously received stroke. According to Gourdol, if an additional stroke is entered after entering a first stroke, the Gourdol device determines if all of the strokes entered on a screen form one multiple stroke gesture, and does not determine if the strokes form a particular multiple stroke gesture. Referring to FIG. 11 in col. 14 line 62 to col. 15 line 23 of Gourdol, if the CPU determines that the strokes entered on a screen are to be part of a multiple stroke gesture at step 220, the process continues to step 86' to compare the normalized stroke with the stored gesture and step 90' to identify a matching gesture. In contrast, Claims 3, 7 and 9 of the present application disclose a character recognition device and method that processes touch screen data upon the entering of each stroke. Gourdol does not disclose recognizing a gesture upon the entering of each stroke, but discloses determining if an entered stroke is part of a multiple stroke gesture. Based on at least the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejections of Claims 3, 7 and 9 is

respectfully requested.

Independent Claims 3, 7 and 9 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 4, 8 and 10 these are likewise believed to be allowable by virtue of its dependence on its respective amended independent claim. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of dependent Claims 4, 8 and 10 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 3, 4 and 7-10, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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